

Use of electricity by different sectors

†3568. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electricity is used for agriculture, industry, business, domestic and other social works in the country; and

(b) if so, the assessment made by Government with regard to the average use to electricity in percentage by each of the above sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 16th Electric Power Survey by the Central Electricity Authority has assessed the electricity consumption of various consumers categories in the country upto the year 2004-05. The pattern of utilisation of electrical energy, as assessed by the 16th Electric Power Survey from 2000-01 to 2004-05 is given below:—

(In percentage)

Categories	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Domestic	21.38	21.81	22.22	22.62	22.99
Commercial	6.83	6.85	6.88	6.90	6.92
Irrigation	28.98	28.56	28.02	27.49	26.98
Industry	36.57	36.64	36.84	37.03	37.22
Others	6.24	6.14	6.04	5.96	5.89

Reducing cost of power by using best quality of coal

†3569. DR. D. MASTHAN:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cost of power generation in Thermal Power Projects can be reduced by using best quality of coal;

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(b) if so, to what extent the present cost of power generation in the terms of percentage can be reduced as a result of using best quality of coal;

(c) whether it is fact that a suggestion has been made for purchasing best quality of coal from Coal India Ltd.; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The use of better grades of coal would result in lower O&M cost, lower transport cost, saving in coal consumption as well as in auxiliary power consumption. The effect on the cost of generation, however, would depend on various factors like coal heat value, price of coal, location of power house from coal mine and other operational factors. For future projects, if the power stations are designed for better quality of coal, capital cost of boiler and coal handling plant may come down marginally. However, the cost of generation would depend also upon the price of better quality of coal.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests have made it mandatory to use coal with ash content less than 34% on annual basis from 1st June, 2001 in the power plants located beyond 1000 kilometers from coal mines and those located in critically polluted areas or sensitive area or urban area irrespective of distance from coal mines except those at pit head. As a short term measure, in order to comply with this requirement, Coal India Limited have prepared a coal matrix for supply of coal of desired quality i.e. less than 34% ash content on annual average basis to the aforesaid category of plants. As a long-term measure, setting up of coal washeries would be required for which a High level Committee under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) has been constituted by the Ministry of Coal.